GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:958
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007
WOMEN LITERACY
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the comparative status with regard to women literacy in each of the last three years; State-wise including Karnataka;

(b) the details of the new schemes being formulated and implemented by the Government, details State-wise including Karnataka;

(c) the funds allocated and released by the Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the funds utilised thereon, State-wise; and

(e) the ratio of women to the national poverty and illiteracy?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) The literacy data in the country is compiled by the Registrar General of India decennially. A statement showing State-wise female literacy rates as per Census 2001 is enclosed at annexure-I.

(b) No new schemes for female literacy have been formulated. The schemes of Total Literacy Campaign (TLC) Post Literacy Programme (PLP) and Continuing Education Programme (CEP) being funded by National Literacy Mission (NLM) cover both men and women. TLC provides basic literacy to illiterates in the age group 15-35, PLP reinforces literacy skills of the neo-literates and CEP provides life long education opportunities. 597 districts have been covered under various literacy programmes. In addition, NLM has taken up special female literacy programme in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Jharkhand covering around 52 lakh women. As reported by some States, specific initiatives for improving the women literacy rate have been taken up. Rajasthan has organized 'Mahila Shikshan Shivirs' under which women are imparted literacy in specially set up fifteen days camps. Nearly 17,000 such camps have been organized over the last three years benefiting nearly 4.28 lakh women.

The programmes launched by State Government of Karnataka are 'Kalike Galike (Learn and Earn), Punaschethana (Rejuvenation Programme), Mini Literacy Project, Sakshara Sanmaana, Literacy through Students and Camp Based Literacy covering 3,08,631, 1,00,497, 21,435, 13,329, 1,80,500 and 1,65,000 women respectively.

(c) Under the Schemes of NLM, funds are not released to State Governments and Union Territories Administrations, but directly to district / State level registered societies and voluntary agencies. There is no State-wise allocation of funds and grants are released depending upon the project proposals received from the implementing agencies. Statement indicating the amount released to these agencies during last three years, State-wise, is enclosed at annexure-II.

(d) The funds released for implementation of various literacy programmes, are to be utilized during the time duration approved for the project and unspent balance, if any, is either carried forward / adjusted to the next phase of literacy programme or refunded after its completion.

(e) Separate estimates of poverty ratio with regard to female poor are not available. However, as per 2001 census, against the national illiteracy rate of 35.16%, the women illiteracy rate is 46.3%.